

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Sawada

Serial No. 09/837,190

Group Art Unit: 2613

Filed: 4-19-01

Examiner: unknown

For: RECORDING/REPRODUCING SYSTEM

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 1 1 2003

**Technology Center 2600** 

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 through 1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents, cited in a Japanese Office Action for the corresponding application and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of this statement.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. Patent application in that the reference was cited in a foreign

patent application on the same subject manner. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the examiner and be formally made of record in the application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credits any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Whitham Registration No. 32,635

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  O 9 2003  APR 0 9 2003 |     |                                                                         |                  |               | 02530022                 | 09/837,190           |                    |                            |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
|                                                         |     |                                                                         |                  |               | Applicant(s) Sawada      |                      |                    |                            |           |
|                                                         |     |                                                                         |                  |               | Filing Date              |                      | Group Art Unit     |                            |           |
| U.S. PAT                                                |     |                                                                         |                  |               | 4-19-01                  |                      | 2613               |                            |           |
| CATA DO                                                 |     | <b>3</b>                                                                |                  | U.S. PAT      | ENT DOCUMENTS            |                      | _                  |                            |           |
| EXAMINER                                                | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                                         | DATE             | NAME          |                          | CLASS                | SUBCLASS           | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |           |
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|                                                         |     |                                                                         |                  | FOREIG        | N PATENT DOCUMENTS       | S                    |                    |                            |           |
|                                                         | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                                         | DATE             |               | COUNTRY                  | CLASS                | SUBCLASS           | Translation YES NO         |           |
|                                                         | 1   | 10-136308                                                               | 5-22-98          | Japan         |                          |                      | abstract           | 1                          |           |
|                                                         | 2   | 08-279273                                                               | 10-22-96         | Japan         |                          |                      | abstract           | 1                          |           |
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|                                                         | 1   | <u> </u>                                                                |                  | OTHER I       | OOCUMENTS (Includia      | ng Author, Title, De | ite, Pertinent Pa  | ges, Etc.)                 |           |
|                                                         |     | Japanese Office Actio                                                   | n with English t | ranslation of | f pertinent portions dat | ted 2-25-03          |                    |                            |           |
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|                                                         |     | al if citation considered, whether<br>e copy of this form with next con |                  |               | with MPEP Section 609; I | Praw line through    | citation if not in | coniormano                 | e and not |

Docket Number (Optional)

Application Number

Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449) P09A/REV04